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THURSDAY
AUGUST 20, 1953

Mossadegh was overthrown yesterday by an army coup d'état and Fatémi, his Foreign Minister, was reported torn to pieces by a mob. The Shah is expected return to/~~xxx~~ shortly from Rome and assume full power. This event, publicly unsuspected in the West, will improve the chances of Iran not going Communist, which is of the greatest importance to the Free World.

E., Audrey and I drove today to Anet, the Chateau of marvelous Diane de Poitiers, who is perhaps the only famous beauty in history supposed to have been the mistress of two kings who were father and son. At any rate, her architectural taste was as distinguished as her noted complexion, and in spite of the destruction of most of the original buildings enough remains to make Anet one of the most seductive and desirable of all country places. Even the river Eure was (after Diane's occupancy) diverted to add still another agreeable feature to this domain. It now belongs to the Iturbes, who were absent in Spain at the time of our visit. The admission fee on the two days a week when it is open to tourists is 60 francs, or about 15 cents. Being about 50 miles from Paris, it is little frequented. Most of the famous sculptures that once adorned it, especially Benvenuto Cellini's figure of Diane in the nude, are either lost or in museums, but the replica of the Cellini is excellent and the incomparable main gateway is a wonder to behold, especially for anyone addicted to hunting with hounds.

On the way back we inspected the exterior of an octagonal pavilion at a crossroads in the forest of Dreux. There are few such extant in France; this, with two stories, is unique in my experience ~~but in a sad state of disrepair.~~

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